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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/615,892

07/07/2003

Dinh C. Tat

CING-125

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39013 7590 07/11/2007
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EXAMINER

GAUTHIER, GERALD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/11/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/615,892

Applicant(s)

TAT ET AL.

Examiner

Gerald Gauthier

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. **Claim(s) 1-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robson (US 5,638,450) in view of Lockwood (US 6,987,839 B1).

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Regarding **claim(s) 1**, Robson discloses an arrangement for transmitting a page (column 1, lines 14-17), the arrangement comprising:

an input to receive DTMF tones constituting a page from a source (column 2, lines 44-59).

Robson fails discloses logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol.

However, Lockwood teaches logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol (column 3, lines 8-23); and

an output to provide the SMPP protocol to a paging device (column 3, lines 1-7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Robson using the teaching of sending the message as taught by Lockwood.

This modification of the invention enables the system to have logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol so that the information would be converted by the SMSC system.

Regarding **claim(s) 2 and 6**, Lockwood teaches an arrangement, further comprising: a Short Message Service Center to receive the SMPP protocol and to form a Short Message Service message (column 3, lines 1-7).

Regarding **claim(s) 3 and 7**, Lockwood teaches an arrangement, further comprising: a switching network element to receive the SMS message and to route the SMS message to a paging device (paragraph 0040).

Regarding **claim(s) 4**, Robson discloses a method of sending a page to a paging device (column 1, lines 14-17), the method comprising:

receiving DTMF tones constituting a page from a source (column 2, lines 44-59).

Robson fails discloses logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol.

However, Lockwood teaches converting the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol (column 3, lines 8-23); and

providing the SMPP protocol to a Short Message Service Center (column 3, lines 1-7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Robson using the teaching of sending the message as taught by Lockwood.

This modification of the invention enables the system to have a logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol so that the information would be converted by the SMSC system.

Regarding **claim(s) 5**, Robson discloses a method, further comprising: receiving the DTMF tones from a Public Switched Telephone Network (column 2, lines 44-59).

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Regarding **claim(s) 8**, Robson discloses a method of sending a page to a paging device (column 1, lines 14-17), the method comprising:

a paging device providing paging information as DTMF tones (column 2, lines 44-59).

Robson fails discloses logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol.

However, Lockwood teaches a first network element converting the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol (column 3, lines 8-23);

a second network element converting the SMPP protocol to an SMS message comprising the paging information (column 3, lines 1-7); and

providing the SMS message to a second paging device (column 3, lines 1-7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Robson using the teaching of sending the message as taught by Lockwood.

This modification of the invention enables the system to have a logic on a converter to convert the DTMF tones to SMPP protocol so that the information would be converted by the SMSC system.

Regarding **claim(s) 9**, Robson discloses a method, further comprising: the first paging device providing the DTMF tones to a Public Switched Telephone Network (column 2, lines 44-59); and

the PSTN communicating the DTMF tones to the network element to convert to SMPP protocol (column 2, lines 44-59).

Regarding **claim(s) 10**, Robson discloses a method, further comprising: the first paging device providing the DTMF tones to one of a Voice Mail System and a Private Branch Exchange (column 2, lines 44-59); and

the one of VMS and PBX communicating the DTMF tones to the network element to convert to SMPP protocol (column 2, lines 44-59).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claim(s) 1-10** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (571) 272-7539. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gerald Gauthier/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2614

GG
July 2, 2007